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wisest way. *Regina v. Wagstaffe*, 10 Cox C. C. 530. Theories, however, may be so absurd that they cannot be considered to be honest beliefs. It is hard to believe a man sincere in withholding food from an infant, or in confining the treatment of a severed artery to prayer. But that is an argument for the jury on the question of good faith. If it is desirable that the conscientious holders of perverted views should not be allowed to injure others by practising on them, the difficulty should be met by statutes. The Statute 31 & 32 Vict., c. 122, s. 37 imposed a positive duty on parents to provide medical attendance for their infant children, and under this statute religious conviction has been held no defence. *Regina v. Downes*, 13 Cox C. C. 111. Apart from such statutes the test is the good faith of the parent in attempting to fulfil the common law duty of care.

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**FEDERAL EQUITY PROCEDURE.**—A Treatise on the Procedure in Suits in Equity in the Circuit Courts of the United States including Appeals and Appellate Procedure. By C. L. Bates. Chicago: T. H. Flood and Company. 1901. 2 vols. pp. lxii, 599; 810. 8vo.

This is an excellent work upon an important, technical, but practical subject. In most of our states, practice acts or codes have so modified the original system of equity procedure developed by the English chancellors that it has now become hardly recognizable. But in the United States courts, at the beginning of their history, the English chancery system was made the basis of equity procedure, and now through the later adoption of the English Chancery Orders of 1842 by these courts, this highly developed English system, only slightly modified, persists in our circuit courts perhaps even to a greater extent than in England itself. This procedure is, or should be, uniform throughout all our federal courts. A book, therefore, of the scope of the present one must prove of great value to all practitioners in federal equity, especially since this subject has before been hardly treated adequately.

The author deals with his theme both broadly and minutely. He outlines the basis of federal equity jurisdiction, and carefully traces the sources of the system of procedure. Then each step in the bringing and prosecution of a suit, including appeals, is taken up with great detail, and all the many questions that may arise during any stage of the proceedings are thoroughly investigated. At each step the English chancery procedure with its modifications in this country is indicated, and the authority for every rule laid down is brought back to the United States Statutes, the Equity Rules of the Supreme Court, or the English Chancery Orders of 1842. The result of this method is a thorough and reliable text-book which brings this great complex system of adjective law into a form readily accessible to a busy lawyer, thus considerably simplifying his labors within this field. Nor is the book without interest to the student, for it shows the survival of an interesting and highly developed form of pleading and practice in its practical modern development.

This book will of necessity be chiefly valuable for reference purposes and its value in this direction is greatly increased by an extensive appendix, containing the Constitution of the United States, annotated, the various Federal Judiciary Acts, the Equity Rules of the Supreme Court, the English Orders in Chancery of 1842, the rules of certain other federal courts, and a thorough selection of forms in equity. This brings together much important material which is not otherwise readily accessible, and, together with the complete series of indexes, makes the whole book a welcome addition to the list of working law books.

W. H. H.